

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CANBER 04499 01 OF 02 120120Z  
ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSCE-00 PM-03 SP-02 INR-05  
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 L-01 ACDA-10 /042 W  
-----029245 120145Z /61  
R 112129Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3499  
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 CANBERRA 4499

LIMDIS

OSD FOR ISA

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, AS

SUBJECT: PROCEDURES FOR CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN USG AND GOA

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY HAS OBTAINED COPY OF MESSAGE FROM A/DOD/SIP (STRATEGIC & INTERNATIONAL POLICY, I.E. ROBERT HAMILTON) TO HEAD, AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE STAFF/WASHINGTON (HADS) INSTRUCTING THE LATTER TO MAKE A FORMAL APPROACH TO DOD/ISA RE NEW PROPOSALS FOR "CONSULTATIONS" REGARDING JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING DONE JOINTLY BETWEEN OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES AT TECHNICAL LEVELS SO THEY WON'T MISLEAD MIN/DEFENCE KILLEN INTO EMBARRASSING POSITIONS LIKE THE ONE OVER NORTH WEST CAPE'S SATELLITE GROUND TERMINALS LAST MONTH. DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFIARS HAS TOLS US POINT-BLANK THAT THE INSTRUCTIONS TO HADS WERE NOT CLEARED WITH ANY OTHER DEPARTMENT, AND WHILE DFA HOPES WE CAN AVOID ANOTHER FLAP LIKE THE NWC SATELLITE MIX-UP, THEY ARE SKEPTICAL -- GIVEN THE WAY THE US APPROPRIATIONS AND AUTHORIZATION PROCESS WORKS --  
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THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO DO MUCH MORE THAN "TRY HARDER NEXT TIME." WE SHARE THEIR SKEPTICISM, ALTHOUGH WE HAVE PROMISED TO TRY HARDER NEXT TIME. WE DEFER TO DEPARTMENT'S AND ISA'S JUDGMENT ABOUT WHAT CAN BE DONE TO ALLEVIATE A/DOD'S CONCERNS, AND ALTHOUGH WE WANT TO BE KEPT INFORMED ABOUT POLICY DEVELOPMENTS, WE ARE UNDER NO ILLUSIONS THAT THIS EMBASSY COULD STAY ON TOP OF THE

MOUNTAIN OF DETAIL WHICH, IN OUR VIEW, IS AND ALWAYS HAS BEEN BEST DISCUSSED AT TECHNICAL LEVELS BETWEEN THE TWO COOPERATING AGENCIES, NAMELY THE USN AND RAN. END SUMMARY.

2. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE MEMORANDUM UPON WHICH THE A/DOD(SIP) MESSAGE TO HADS WAS BASED:  
BEGIN QUOTE: PROCEDURE FOR EFFECTIVE CONTINUING CONSULTATIONS WITH US DEFENSE DEPARTMENT ON MATTERS AFFECTING:

1. THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES ARE DESIGNED IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT U.S. PLANS AND PROPOSALS INVOLVING AMERICAN ACTIVITIES ON AUSTRALIAN SOIL OR DEVELOPMENT OF THE FUNCTIONS AND CAPABILITIES OF THESE INSTALLATIONS ARE COMMUNICATED TO THE AUSTRALIAN MINISTER OF DEFENCE THROUGH A DESIGNATED POINT IN HIS DEPARTMENT AND NOT CONFINED TO MILITARY CHANNELS.

2. THE PROCEDURE LOOKS TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO OBTAIN FROM ITS MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND TO CONVEY THROUGH THE ABOVE CHANNELS ALL INFORMATION WHICH IS RELEVANT TO THE CONTINUED DESIRE OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TO BE PROPERLY INFORMED, CAPABLE OF INFORMING THE AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENT PROMPTLY AND ACCURATELY, AND ABLE TO SUSTAIN READY COOPERATION WITH THE U.S., SO FACILITATING IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TERMS OF THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT.  
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#### CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION

3. THE CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION ON THE MATTERS IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPHS 4 AND 5 BELOW WILL BE:

##### A. IN WASHINGTON

(I) THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BUREAU OF THE U.S. DEFENSE DEPARTMENT WILL BE UNDERSTOOD TO BE THE AGREED POINT OF CONTACT BETWEEN THE U.S. AND AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE AUTHORITIES FOR CONVEYANCE OF ALL INFORMATION WHICH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT BRINGS TO THE ATTENTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN AUTHORITIES WITH POLICY RESPONSIBILITIES.

(II) THE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BUREAU WILL COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH HEAD, AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE STAFF, WASHINGTON.

(III) WHERE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BUREAU HAS TO REPORT THE FACT OF U.S. PLANNING OR A CHANGE IN PLANNING PREVIOUSLY REPORTED THIS WILL BE DONE IN WRITING.

(IV) WHERE INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BUREAU HAS TO REPORT NO CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF

INFORMATION ALREADY PASSED IN WRITING THIS  
MAY BE DONE ORALLY.

B. IN CANBERRA

(I) U.S. REQUESTS FOR AUSTRALIAN AGREEMENT WILL  
BE PRESENTED BY THE U.S. EMBASSY IN CANBERRA  
IN WRITING TO THE SECRETARY OF THE AUSTRALIAN  
DEFENCE DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE FIRST ASSISTANT  
SECRETARY, STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY  
DIVISION. THE SECRETARY OF DEPARTMENT OF  
DEFENCE WILL INFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS.

(II) AT THE DISCRETION OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT ADVICE  
FROM INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BUREAU CON-  
CERNING PLANNING MAY ALSO BE CONVEYED BY THE  
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DEFENSE ATTACHE OF THE U.S. EMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO THE FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, STRATEGIC  
AND INTERNATIONAL POLICY DIVISION, DEPARTMENT  
OF DEFENCE, CANBERRA, IN WRITING.

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSCE-00 SP-02 PM-03 INR-05  
CIAE-00 NSAE-00 L-01 ACDA-10 /042 W  
-----029224 120145Z /61

R 112129Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3500  
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 CANBERRA 4499

LIMDIS

OSD FOR ISA

THE SUBJECT AND TIMING OF COMMUNICATIONS

4. U.S. TECHNICAL OR OTHER PLANNING WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, THROUGH THE CHANNELS IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 3 ABOVE, AS FOLLOWS:

A. WHERE SUCH TECHNICAL OR OTHER PLANNING FOR CHANGE IN THE EQUIPMENT, STAFFING, OR CAPABILITIES OF A JOINT DEFENCE FACILITY HAS OR COULD BE SUGGESTED TO HAVE SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE ROLE OF THE INSTALLATION OR ITS PRESENT OR POTENTIAL FUNCTIONS OR COULD REASONABLY BE REQUIRED BY THE RESPONSIBLE AUSTRALIAN MINISTER TO BE BROUGHT TO HIS ATTENTION AS INVOLVING OR FORESHADOWING ACTIONS - INCLUDING IN RELATION TO PHYSICAL SECURITY - TO BE TAKEN BY THE U.S. ON OR FROM AUSTRALIAN SOIL.

B. WHEN THE PLANNING REFERRED TO IN 4A. ABOVE HAS DEVELOPED TO A POINT WHICH ALLOWS OR REQUIRES ANY PRESENTATION TO ANY U.S. CONGRESSIONAL BODY OR ANY PUBLIC RELEASE.

. WHEN PURSUANT TO THAT PLANNING:

(I) CONTACTS CONTINGENTLY INVOLVING AUSTRALIAN  
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COOPERATION ARE TO BE LET.

(II) DESIGN STUDIES SPECIFICALLY RELATED TO FUTURE CONSTRUCTION OR INSTALLATION IN AUSTRALIA ARE TO BE INITIATED.

(III) PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS INTO FACILITIES IN AUSTRALIA ARE IMMINENT.

5. U.S. PROPOSALS SEEKING AUSTRALIAN APPROVAL WILL BE PRESENTED FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF THE AUSTRALIAN AUTHORITIES THROUGH THE CHANNELS IDENTIFIED IN 3. ABOVE IN RELATION TO ALL MATTERS FALLING WITHIN THE SCOPE OF 4A. ABOVE PRIOR TO:

A. THE MODIFICATION, REMOVAL, REPLACEMENT OR NEW INSTALLATION OF EQUIPMENT IN AUSTRALIA OR THE UNDERTAKING OF ANY WORKS IN AUSTRALIA RELATED TO THIS.

B. THE CALLING OF TENDERS FOR ANY CONTRACT IN RELATION TO 5A. ABOVE.

C. THE EXECUTION OF ANY PERSONNEL CHANGES.

6. THE PROVISIONS OF PARAGRAPHS 1-5 ABOVE ARE NOT INTENDED TO IMPAIR OR PREJUDICE IN ANY WAY EXISTING TECHNICAL AND/OR OPERATIONAL LIAISON BETWEEN SERVICE OFFICERS OF ARMED SERVICES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES: THESE BEING VALUED FOR SEPARATE REASONS. THE PURPOSE OF THIS NEW ARRANGEMENT IS TO ENSURE THAT THIS LIAISON BETWEEN SERVICES IS NOT ALLOWED TO BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR CONVEYANCE OF INFORMATION TO AUSTRALIA THROUGH THE POLICY CHANNELS DESCRIBED. END QTE.  
SQUIRE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**To:** STATE DOD  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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